

REMARKS

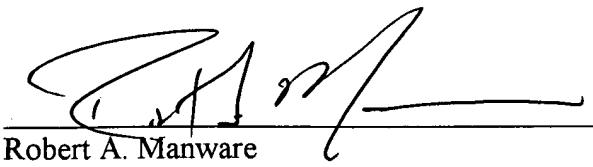
At the time the Final Office Action was mailed, claims 1-20 were pending. In the Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 8-20. Additionally, the Examiner objected to claims 2-7 and indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants presently amend the claims based on the allowable matter indicated by the Examiner to place them in condition for allowance. Specifically, by the present Response, Applicants amend claim 1 to incorporate the allowable features of claim 2, which is presently canceled. Further, Applicants presently amend claims 3-6, 8-11, and 16-18 to address clerical issues and to make certain claims properly depend from the newly amended claim 1. Reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims in view of these amendments is respectfully requested.

It should be noted that while Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2-7, Applicants do not agree with the Examiner's rejection of claims 1 and 8-20 as they stood at the time of mailing the Final Office Action. Indeed, Applicants fully intend to file a continuation application to capture the subject matter of the rejected claims.

In view of the remarks and amendments set forth above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Examiner's rejections and allowance of all pending claims. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 10/23/05



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